

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV257330044US
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the Applicants' duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner consider on the merits the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) before issuing the first Office Action on the merits.

A copy of each document listed on the enclosed form PTO-1449 (modified) is enclosed herewith.

Japanese Patent Application No. 10-269611, Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-236674, and Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-015454 are not in English. A concise English-language explanation of the relevance of Japanese Patent Application No. 10-269611, Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-236674, and Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-015454 can be found in the enclosed English-language abstracts from Patent Abstracts of Japan.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be

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construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)) and on the basis of information in the practitioner's file.

If any fees are due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 12-0415 or credit any overpayment to our Account No. 12-0415. No fees should be due because this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-identified U.S. patent application.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 (modified) (1 page)

Copies of documents listed in Form PTO-1449 (modified)

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Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	ATTY DOCKET NO. B-5163 621099-6	U.S. SERIAL NO. not yet assigned
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS STATEMENT	APPLICANT(S) Yoshio SASAKI, et al.	
	FILING DATE concurrently herewith	GROUP not yet assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE or 102(e) DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO
	10-269611	10/1998	JP			abstract
	2001-236674	08/2001	JP			abstract
	2002-015454	01/2002	JP			abstract

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.